

## Monroe County's

# Greece Canal Park

### Trail Information

#### **Deer Run**

This is an easy 1.4 mile walk over gently rolling terrain. An observation point and highlight of this trail is a beautiful pond surrounded by cattail plants along the southern edge of the trail. Listen for green frogs, redwing blackbirds, woodpeckers, kingfishers and other birds.

The trail is a delightful woodland walk under a canopy of predominately maple, ash, and oak trees. This is a great fall foliage hike. Look for interesting fall mushrooms and wildflowers including jewelweed and asters along the way. In summer, look for ferns including sensitive fern and wildflowers. You will also find rock walls indicating this was formerly farmland.

#### **Canal Trail**

This is an easy .9 mile walk over gently rolling terrain. The trail winds its way through honeysuckle shrubs and woods of black cherry, black walnut, and butternut trees. It is especially beautiful in early summer when sunlight filters through the black cherry trees and lights clumps of pink, purple and white dames rocket wildflowers below.

A highlight of this walk is the portion of the trail that follows along the Erie Canal. The canal opened in 1825 and it was considered an engineering marvel. It proved to be the key that unlocked an enormous series of social and economic changes in this area, and spurred the first great westward movement of settlers. This part of the trail is especially pretty in early summer when the locust trees that line the canal banks are in full bloom.

#### Farm Artifact Trail

This trail is a .9 mile walk over generally level terrain through a woods of maple, ash, black cherry, cottonwood, sassafras and various nut trees including shagbark hickory. Maple, sassafras and hickory give us some of the most spectacular fall colors, so this trail is especially beautiful in the fall. In summer look for ferns and wildflowers, including forget me not. Shrubs include staghorn sumac, dogwoods and multi-flora roses. Keep your eyes out for deer and listen for woodpeckers and other birds.

This trail tells part of the human history of this land. An observation point includes old rock walls, and farm implements that are artifacts of former farms.

#### **West Trail**

This trail is an easy .4 mile walk over level terrain. The trail is under a canopy of maple, beech, oak, black cherry, hickory and tulip trees. It is especially interesting in the fall when the wildflowers and fungus on the forest floor are lit by sunlight filtering through the trees. Look for sensitive fern and other ferns, and carpets of various mosses as you walk along. This trail borders farmland so look for red fox and deer, and see if you can spot a flock of wild turkey.

Please be aware of seasonal changes in trail conditions and be prepared for natural environment such as mosquitoes and poison ivy in some areas.

#### If you have rented a Lodge...

Go to the Lodge you have rented. The doors will be unlocked one hour prior to the arrival time printed on your reservations permit.

#### If you have rented a Shelter...

A park guard will stop by to check your permit.

#### **Greece Canal Park Hours and Rules**

Greece Canal Park gates are open everyday from 8:00 a.m. until dusk unless a facility is being used. The shelters and lodges are reserved by calling 256-4951 and are available from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. daily. Our County Parks are Carry-In Carry-Out. Please take all garbage with you to dispose of after you leave. Keg Beer is permitted if stamped on your rental permit. Recreation fields are available on a first come / first serve basis if the fields are not in league use. Pets must be leashed. Bicycles are not allowed on unpaved trails.

**Greece Canal Park Playground** is a state-of-the-art playground built in 2000 from a donation from Greece Rotary Club and the assistance of Rotary volunteers. It includes specially designed toddler and school-aged sections.

